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This person is applicant all designated for the purposes of:	States except ates of America	the United States of America only the States indicated in the Supplemental Box	
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The filing of this request confiling date, for the grant of every	stitutes under Rule 4.9(a), the very kind of protection availa	ne designation of all Controls ble and, where applicable,	acting States bound by the for the grant of both reg	e PCT on the international ional and national patents.
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KR Republic of Korea	is not designated for any ki	nd of national protection		
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the national law, of an earlie	be used to exclude (irrevocabler national application from v ons in these and certain other	vhich priority is claimed.	ned in order to avoid the See the Notes to Box No	ceasing of the effect, under . V as to the consequences
Box No. VI PRIORITY	CLAIM			
The priority of the following	earlier application(s) is hereb	oy claimed:		
Filing date	Number	V	Vhere earlier application	is:
of earlier application (day/month/year)	of earlier application	national application: country or Member of WTO	regional application:* regional Office	international application: receiving Office
item (1) 10 December 2003 (10/12/03)	03293084.4		EP	
item (2)				
item (3)				
Further priority claims a	are indicated in the Suppleme	ntal Box.		
The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) (only if the earlier application was filed with the Office which for the purposes of this international application is the receiving Office) identified above as:				
all items ite	em (1) item (2)	item (3)	other, se	ee Supplemental Box
* Where the earlier application is an ARIPO application, indicate at least one country party to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property or one Member of the World Trade Organization for which that earlier application was filed (Rule 4.10(b)(ii)):				
Box No. VII INTERNAT	IONAL SEARCHING AUT	HORITY		
Choice of International Searching Authority (ISA) (if two or more International Searching Authorities are competent to carry out the international search, indicate the Authority chosen; the two-letter code may be used):				
ISA /				
Request to use results of earlier search; reference to that search (if an earlier search has been carried out by or requested from the International Searching Authority):				
Date (day/month/year)  Number  Country (or regional Office)				
Box No. VIII DECLARATIONS				
The following declarations are contained in Boxes Nos. VIII (i) to (v) (mark the applicable check-boxes below and indicate in the right column the number of each type of declaration):  Number of declarations				
Box No. VIII (i)	Declaration as to the identity	y of the inventor		:
Box No. VIII (ii)  Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to apply for and be granted a patent:				
Box No. VIII (iii)  Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to claim the priority of the earlier application:				
Box No. VIII (iv)  Declaration of inventorship (only for the purposes of the designation of the United States of America):			:	
Box No. VIII (v) Declaration as to non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty :				

Box No. IX CHECK LIST; LANGUAGE	OF FILING		
This international application contains:  (a) on paper, the following number of sheets:	This international application is accompanied by the following item(s) (mark the applicable check-boxes below and indicate in right column the number of each item):	g Number of items	
request (including	1. fee calculation sheet	:	
deciaration sheets)	2. I original separate power of attorney	: 1	
description (excluding sequence listing and/or	3. original general power of attorney	:	
tables related thereto) : [5][4]	4. copy of general power of attorney; reference number, if any:		
claims : 3	5. statement explaining lack of signature	:	
abstract : 1	6. priority document(s) identified in Box No. VI as		
drawings :	item(s):	: 1	
Sub-total number of sheets : [13][12] sequence listing :	7. translation of international application into (language):	:	
tables related thereto :  (for both, actual number	8. separate indications concerning deposited microorgal or other biological material	nism :	
of sheets if filed on paper, whether or not also	9. sequence listing in electronic form (indicate type and number of carriers)		
filed in electronic form; see (c) below)	(i) ☐ copy submitted for the purposes of international se Rule 13 <i>ter</i> only (and not as part of the internationa	arch under	
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(c) also in electronic form (Section 801(a)(ii))	10. tables in electronic form related to sequence listing (indicate type and number of carriers)		
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sequence listing:	(iii) together with relevant statement as to the identity of		
tables related thereto:	copies with the tables mentioned in left column	:	
(additional copies to be indicated under items 9(îi) and/or 10(îi), in right column)	11.  other (specify):	······	
Figure of the drawings which	Language of filing of the French		
should accompany the abstract:  Box No. X SIGNATURE OF APPLICAN	international application:  T, AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE		
Next to each signature, indicate the name of the person sig	ning and the capacity in which the person signs (if such capacity is not obvious	s from reading the request).	
(signature) Odile OSTERMANN, authorised signatory LES LABORATOIRES SERVIER			
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Date of actual receipt of the purported	(09-12-200¢)	2. Drawings:	
international application:	9 DEC. 2004		
Corrected date of actual receipt due to later timely received papers or drawings completing the purported international application:	put	received:	
Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2):		not received:	
5. International Searching Authority (if two or more are competent): ISA /	6. Transmittal of search copy delayed until search fee is paid		
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### NEW PROCESS FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF PERINDOPRIL AND PHARMACEUTICALLY ACCEPTABLE SALTS THEREOF

The present invention relates to a process for the synthesis of perindopril of formula (I):

$$H$$

$$CO_{2}H$$

$$H_{3}C$$

$$SNH$$

$$CO_{2}Et$$

$$CO_{2}Et$$

$$CO_{2}Et$$

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

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5 Perindopril and its pharmaceutically acceptable salts, and more especially its tertbutylamine salt, have valuable pharmacological properties.

Their principal property is that of inhibiting angiotensin I converting enzyme (or kininase II), which allows, on the one hand, prevention of the conversion of the decapeptide angiotensin I to the octapeptide angiotensin II (a vasoconstrictor) and, on the other hand, prevention of the degradation of bradykinin (a vasodilator) to an inactive peptide.

Those two actions contribute to the beneficial effects of perindopril in cardiovascular diseases, more especially in arterial hypertension and heart failure.

Perindopril, its preparation and its use in therapeutics have been described in European patent specification EP 0 049 658.

In view of the pharmaceutical value of this compound, it has been important to be able to obtain it by an effective synthesis process, readily transposable to an industrial scale, that leads to perindopril in a good yield and, especially, with excellent purity.

Patent specification EP 0 308 341 describes the industrial synthesis of perindopril by the coupling of (2S,3aS,7aS)-octahydroindole-2-carboxylic acid benzyl ester with N-[(S)-1-

carboxybutyl]-(S)-alanine ethyl ester in the presence of dicyclohexylcarbodiimide, followed by deprotection of the carboxylic group of the heterocycle by catalytic hydrogenation.

That process has disadvantages related to use of the dicyclohexylcarbodiimide.

5 The Applicant has developed a process for the synthesis of perindopril that uses other coupling agents.

More specifically, the present invention relates to a process for the synthesis of perindopril, which process is characterised in that the benzyl ester of formula (IIa) or (IIb):

$$\begin{array}{c}
H \\
E \\
N \\
CO_2Bn
\end{array}$$
(IIa)
(IIb)

or an addition salt of the ester of formula (IIa) or (IIb) with a mineral acid or organic acid is reacted

with the compound of formula (III):

$$CH_3$$
 $CH_3$ 
 $EtO_2C$ 
 $(S)$   $NH$ 
 $(S)$   $CO_2H$ 

in the presence of a coupling agent selected from the following reagents and pairs of reagents:

- (1,3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethyl-carbodiimide hydrochloride,
- (1,3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethyl-carbodiimide hydrochloride / 1-hydroxybenzotriazole,
- (1,3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethyl-carbodiimide hydrochloride / 1-hydroxy-7-azabenzotriazole,
- 20 (1,3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethyl-carbodiimide hydrochloride / N-hydroxysuccinimide,

- (1,3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethyl-carbodiimide hydrochloride / 3-hydroxy-3,4-dihydro-4-oxo-1,2,3-benzotriazine,
- (1,3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethyl-carbodiimide hydrochloride / N-hydroxyphthalimide, dicyclohexylcarbodiimide / 1-hydroxy-7-azabenzotriazole,
- dicyclohexylcarbodiimide / N-hydroxysuccinimide, dicyclohexylcarbodiimide / 3-hydroxy-3,4-dihydro-4-oxo-1,2,3-benzotriazine, dicyclohexylcarbodiimide / N-hydroxyphthalimide,
  - O-(benzotriazol-1-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium hexafluorophosphate,
  - O-(7-azabenzotriazol-1-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium hexafluorophosphate,
- O-(benzotriazol-1-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate, benzotriazol-1-yl-oxytripyrrolidinophosphonium hexafluorophosphate, benzotriazol-1-yl-oxy-tris(dimethylamino)phosphonium hexafluorophosphate, O-(benzotriazol-1-yl)-1,1,3,3-bis(tetramethylene)uronium hexafluorophosphate,
  - O-(benzotriazol-1-yl)-1,1,3,3-bis(pentamethylene)uronium hexafluorophosphate,
- chloro-tripyrrolidinophosphonium hexafluorophosphate, chloro-1,1,3,3-bis(tetramethylene)formamidinium hexafluorophosphate, chloro-1,1,3,3-bis(pentamethylene)formamidinium hexafluorophosphate, N-ethoxycarbonyl-2-ethoxy-1,2-dihydroquinoline,
  - O-[(ethoxycarbonyl)-cyanomethyleneamino]-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate,
- O-(3,4-dihydro-4-oxo-1,2,3-benzotriazin-3-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate,
  - O-(3,4-dihydro-4-oxo-1,2,3-benzotriazin-3-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate / 1-hydroxybenzotriazole,
  - O-(3,4-dihydro-4-oxo-1,2,3-benzotriazin-3-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium
- 25 tetrafluoroborate / N-methylmorpholine,
  - O-(3,4-dihydro-4-oxo-1,2,3-benzotriazin-3-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate / collidine,
  - O-(1,2-dihydro-2-oxo-1-pyridyl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate,
  - O-(1,2-dihydro-2-oxo-1-pyridyl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate /
- 30 1-hydroxybenzotriazole,
  - O-(1,2-dihydro-2-oxo-1-pyridyl)-1,1,3,3-bis(tetramethylene)uronium hexafluorophosphate,

- O-(1,2-dihydro-2-oxo-1-pyridyl)-1,1,3,3-bis(tetramethylene)uronium hexafluoro-phosphate / 1-hydroxy-benzotriazole,
- O-(N-succinimidyl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate,
- O-(N-succinimidyl)-1,1,3,3-bis(tetramethylene)uronium tetrafluoroborate,
- 5 O-(N-succinimidyl)-1,1,3,3-bis(tetramethylene)uronium tetrafluoroborate / 1-hydroxy-benzotriazole,
  - O-(5-norbornene-2,3-dicarboximido)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate, propanephosphonic anhydride,
  - N-hydroxy-5-norbornene-2,3-dicarboxylic acid imide,
- and N-hydroxy-1,2-dihydro-2-oxo-pyridine,

optionally in the presence of a base,

to yield, after catalytic hydrogenation in the presence of palladium, perindopril of formula (I), which is converted, if desired, into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt such as the tert-butylamine salt.

15 When the compound of formula (IIa) is used as starting material, the catalytic hydrogenation is preferably carried out under a hydrogen pressure of less than 10 bars.

When the compound of formula (IIb) is used as starting material, the catalytic hydrogenation is preferably carried out under a hydrogen pressure of from 10 to 35 bars.

The example hereinbelow illustrates the invention.

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## 20 <u>Example 1</u>: Benzyl (2S,3aS,7aS)-1-{(2S)-2-[(1S)-1-(ethoxycarbonyl)-butylamino]-propionyl}-octahydro-1H-indole-2-carboxylate:

200 g of (2S,3aS,7aS)-octahydroindole-2-carboxylic acid benzyl ester para-toluene-sulphonate, 65 ml of triethylamine and 1 litre of ethyl acetate are introduced into a stirred reactor, followed, after stirring for 10 minutes at ambient temperature, by 100 g of N-[(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-1-butyl]-(S)-alanine and 175 g of O-(benzotriazol-1-yl)-1,1,3,3-bis(tetra-

methylene)uronium hexafluorophosphate. The heterogeneous mixture is then heated at 30°C for 3 hours whilst stirring well and is then cooled to 0°C and filtered.

The filtrate is then washed and subsequently evaporated to dryness to yield the expected product.

### 5 <u>Example 2</u>: (2S,3aS,7aS)-1-{(2S)-2-[(1S)-1-(Ethoxycarbonyl)-butylamino]-propionyl}-octahydro-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid:

The residue obtained in the previous step (200 g) is dissolved in 200 ml of methyl-cyclohexane and transferred to a hydrogenator; 26 g of 5 % palladium-on-carbon suspended in 80 ml of methylcyclohexane are then added, followed by 640 ml of water.

The mixture is then hydrogenated under a pressure of 0.5 bar at a temperature of from 15 to 30°C, until the theoretical amount of hydrogen has been absorbed.

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After filtering off the catalyst, the aqueous phase of the filtrate is washed with methylcyclohexane and then lyophilised to yield the expected product in a yield of 94 %.

### <u>Example 3</u>: (2S,3aS,7aS)-1-{(2S)-2-[(1S)-1-(Ethoxycarbonyl)-butylamino]-propionyl}-octahydro-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid tert-butylamine salt:

The lyophilisate obtained in the previous step (200 g) is dissolved in 2.8 litres of ethyl acetate, and then 44 g of tert-butylamine and 400 ml of ethyl acetate are added.

The suspension obtained is then refluxed until dissolution is complete; then the solution obtained is filtered whilst hot and cooled to a temperature of 15-20°C, with stirring.

The precipitate obtained is then filtered off, made into a paste again using ethyl acetate, dried and then ground to yield the expected product in a yield of 95 %.

#### **CLAIMS**

1. Process for the industrial synthesis of perindopril of formula (I)

$$H \\ CO_2H \\ H_3C_{(S)} \\ NH \\ CO_2Et$$

$$CO_3Et$$

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, characterised in that the benzyl ester of formula (IIa) or (IIb):

$$\begin{array}{c}
H \\
\downarrow \\
H \\
H
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
CO_2Bn \\
H
\end{array}$$
(IIa)

or an addition salt of the ester of formula (IIa) or (IIb) with a mineral acid or organic acid is reacted

with the compound of formula (III):

$$CH_3$$
 $CH_3$ 
 $EtO_2C$ 
 $(S)$   $NH$ 
 $(S)$   $CO_2H$ 
 $(III)$ 

in the presence of a coupling agent selected from the following reagents and pairs of reagents:

- (1,3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethyl-carbodiimide hydrochloride,
- (1,3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethyl-carbodiimide hydrochloride / 1-hydroxybenzotriazole,

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- (1,3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethyl-carbodiimide hydrochloride / 1-hydroxy-7-azabenzo-triazole,
- (1,3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethyl-carbodiimide hydrochloride / N-hydroxysuccinimide,
- (1,3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethyl-carbodiimide hydrochloride / 3-hydroxy-3,4-dihydro-
- 5 4-oxo-1,2,3-benzotriazine,
  - (1,3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethyl-carbodiimide hydrochloride / N-hydroxyphthalimide,
  - dicyclohexylcarbodiimide / 1-hydroxy-7-azabenzotriazole,
  - dicyclohexylcarbodiimide / N-hydroxysuccinimide,
  - dicyclohexylcarbodiimide / 3-hydroxy-3,4-dihydro-4-oxo-1,2,3-benzotriazine,
- 10 dicyclohexylcarbodiimide / N-hydroxyphthalimide,
  - O-(benzotriazol-1-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium hexafluorophosphate,
  - O-(7-azabenzotriazol-1-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium hexafluorophosphate,
  - O-(benzotriazol-1-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate,
  - benzotriazol-1-yl-oxytripyrrolidinophosphonium hexafluorophosphate,
- benzotriazol-1-yl-oxy-tris(dimethylamino)phosphonium hexafluorophosphate,
  - O-(benzotriazol-1-yl)-1,1,3,3-bis(tetramethylene)uronium hexafluorophosphate,
  - O-(benzotriazol-1-yl)-1,1,3,3-bis(pentamethylene)uronium hexafluorophosphate,
  - chloro-tripyrrolidinophosphonium hexafluorophosphate,
  - chloro-1,1,3,3-bis(tetramethylene)formamidinium hexafluorophosphate,
- 20 chloro-1,1,3,3-bis(pentamethylene)formamidinium hexafluorophosphate,
  - N-ethoxycarbonyl-2-ethoxy-1,2-dihydroquinoline,
  - O-[(ethoxycarbonyl)-cyanomethyleneamino]-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate,
  - O-(3,4-dihydro-4-oxo-1,2,3-benzotriazin-3-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate,
- O-(3,4-dihydro-4-oxo-1,2,3-benzotriazin-3-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate / 1-hydroxybenzotriazole,
  - O-(3,4-dihydro-4-oxo-1,2,3-benzotriazin-3-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate / N-methylmorpholine,
  - O-(3,4-dihydro-4-oxo-1,2,3-benzotriazin-3-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium
- 30 tetrafluoroborate / collidine,
  - O-(1,2-dihydro-2-oxo-1-pyridyl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate,

- O-(1,2-dihydro-2-oxo-1-pyridyl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate / 1-hydroxybenzotriazole,
- O-(1,2-dihydro-2-oxo-1-pyridyl)-1,1,3,3-bis(tetramethylene)uronium hexafluorophosphate,
- O-(1,2-dihydro-2-oxo-1-pyridyl)-1,1,3,3-bis(tetramethylene)uronium hexafluoro-
- phosphate / 1-hydroxy-benzotriazole,
  - O-(N-succinimidyl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate,
  - O-(N-succinimidyl)-1,1,3,3-bis(tetramethylene)uronium tetrafluoroborate,
  - O-(N-succinimidyl)-1,1,3,3-bis(tetramethylene)uronium tetrafluoroborate / 1-hydroxy-benzotriazole,
- O-(5-norbornene-2,3-dicarboximido)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate, propanephosphonic anhydride,

N-hydroxy-5-norbornene-2,3-dicarboxylic acid imide, and N-hydroxy-1,2-dihydro-2-oxo-pyridine,

optionally in the presence of a base,

- to yield, after catalytic hydrogenation in the presence of palladium, perindopril of formula (I), which is converted, if desired, into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.
  - 2. Process according to claim 1 for the synthesis of perindopril in the form of its tert-butylamine salt.
- 3. Process according to claim 1, characterised in that the compound of formula (IIa) is used as starting material.
  - **4.** Process according to claim 1, characterised in that the compound of formula (IIb) is used as starting material.
  - 5. Process according to claim 3, characterised in that the hydrogenation reaction is carried out under a hydrogen pressure of less than 10 bars.
- 6. Process according to claim 4, characterised in that the hydrogenation reaction is carried out under a hydrogen pressure of from 10 to 35 bars.

#### **ABSTRACT**

# NEW PROCESS FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF PERINDOPRIL AND PHARMACEUTICALLY ACCEPTABLE SALTS THEREOF

Process for the industrial synthesis of perindopril of formula (I):

$$\begin{array}{c} H \\ \downarrow \\ H \\ H_3C \\ \hline \\ S) \\ \hline \\ CO_2Et \end{array}$$
 (I)

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

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